

Listing of claims

1-70 (cancelled)

71. (new) An implantable power module comprising:

a sealed biocompatible case enclosing a power source for powering a medical device located external to said case;
a power management circuit; and
an inductive charging coil.

72. (new) The implantable power module recited in claim 71 wherein said power source comprises an electrochemical storage device.

73. (new) The implantable power module of claim 71 wherein said power source comprises at least one primary battery.

74. (new) The implantable power module recited in claim 71 wherein said power source is shielded with a ferrous material.

75. (new) The implantable power module recited in claim 71 wherein said power management circuit and said inductive charging coil are enclosed within said sealed biocompatible case.

76. (new) The implantable power module recited in claim 71 wherein said inductive charging coil is located outside said sealed biocompatible case.

77. (new) The implantable power module recited in claim 76 wherein said coil is coated with a polymer coating.

78. (new) The implantable power module recited in claim 71 further comprising a communication means for remotely interrogating the status of said power module.

79. (new) The implantable power module of claim 71 further comprising a means for remotely controlling said power module.

80. (new) The implantable power module recited in claim 71 further comprising at least one external hermetic connector for coupling said power source to the medical device located external to said case.

81. (new) The implantable power module of claim 80 wherein said connector is further characterized by being detachably connectable to said medical device.

82. (new) A implantable power module comprising:

a sealed biocompatible case for implanting within a body, said case containing components consisting essentially of:

at least one electrochemical energy storage device; and

a power management circuit; and

at least one hermetic connector for providing power from said power module to an implantable medical device located external to said sealed biocompatible case.

83. (new) The implantable power module recited in claim 82 further comprising an inductive charging coil.

84. (new) A implantable power module comprising:

a sealed biocompatible case containing components consisting essentially of:

at least one electrochemical energy storage device;

a communication couple; and

a power management circuit.

85. (new) The implanted power module recited in claim 84 further comprising at least one external hermetic plug.

86. (new) The implantable power module recited in claim 84 further comprising an inductive charging coil.

87. (new) A method for using a power module comprising a sealed biocompatible case enclosing a power management circuit and a power source for powering a medical device located external to said case, said method comprising the act of:
implanting said power module in a human or animal body.

88. (new) The method of claim 87 wherein said implanting act comprises injecting said power module in said body.

89. (new) The method of claim 87, further comprising the act of:
locating the power module after said power module has been implanted in said body.

90. (new) The method of claim 87, further comprising the act of:
connecting the medical device to the power module via a hermetic connector prior to
implanting said power module in said body.